

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application with the following listing of claims.

**Listing of claims**

Claim 1 (currently amended): In an ad-hoc network wherein data packets are sent from a source node to a destination node via an established route, a source node comprising:

means for requesting route discovery between the source node and a destination node over existing subnetworks;

means for determining whether said request for route discovery between the source node and the destination node over existing ~~network connections~~ subnetworks fails; and

means for determining a route between the source node and the destination node by forming and/or reforming one or more ~~new connections associated with one or more newly formed~~ subnetworks if it is determined in response to determining that said request for route discovery between the source node and the destination node over existing ~~network connections~~ subnetworks fails.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The source node of claim 1, wherein said means for requesting route discovery comprises:

means for broadcasting a route discovery request message, for a route between the source node and the destination node over one or more ~~connections associated with one or more~~ existing subnetworks, if the source node is a member of one or more of the existing subnetworks.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The source node of claim 2, wherein said means for determining whether said request for route discovery between the source node and the destination node over existing ~~network connections~~ subnetworks fails comprises:

means for determining if a timely reply message is received by the source node in response to the broadcast route discovery request message.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The source node of claim 3, wherein said means for determining a route comprises:

means for establishing a route between the source node and the destination node over one or more ~~new connections associated with one or more~~ newly formed and/or reformed subnetworks, ~~if it is determined~~ in response to determining that a timely reply was not received.

Claims 5-8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (currently amended): In an ad-hoc network, an arrangement for establishing a route over which data packets are to be sent from a source node to a destination node, the arrangement comprising:

a source node; and

at least one destination node,

wherein the source node comprises:

means for requesting route discovery between the source node and the destination node over existing ~~network connections~~ subnetworks;

means for determining whether said request for route discovery between the source node and the destination node over existing ~~network connections~~ subnetworks fails; and

means for establishing a route between the source node and the destination node by forming and/or reforming one or more ~~new network connections associated with one or more newly formed~~ subnetworks if it is determined in response to determining that said request for route discovery between the source node and the destination node over existing ~~network connections~~ subnetworks failed.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The arrangement of claim 9, wherein the means for determining whether said request for route discovery between the source node and the destination node over existing ~~network connections fails~~ subnetworks failed comprises:

means for determining whether the source node received a timely reply in response to the request for route discovery.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The arrangement of claim 9, wherein the network is a Bluetooth technology based network.

Claim 12 (currently amended): In an ad-hoc network, an arrangement for establishing a route between a source node and a destination node over which data packets are to be sent, the arrangement comprising:

a plurality of nodes that communicate with each other over one or more subnetworks;  
a source node; and  
a destination node,  
wherein the source node comprises:

means for broadcasting a route discovery request message for a route between the source node and the destination node over one or more ~~connections associated with the one or more~~ existing subnetworks if the source node is a member of one or more of the existing subnetworks;

means for determining if a timely reply message is received by the source node in response to the broadcast route discovery request message; and

means for establishing a route between the source node and the destination node by forming and/or reforming ~~over one or more new connections associated with~~ one or more ~~newly formed~~ subnetworks if it is determined in response to determining that a timely reply message was not received.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The arrangement of claim 12, wherein the source node further comprises:

means for establishing a route between the source node and the destination node ~~over one or more new connections associated with~~ by forming and/or reforming one or more ~~newly formed~~ subnetworks [[if]] in response to determining that the source node is not a member of one or more of the existing subnetworks.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The arrangement of claim 12, wherein the source node further comprises:

means for establishing a route between the source node and the destination node ~~over one or more new connections associated with~~ by forming and/or reforming one or more ~~newly formed~~ subnetworks [[if]] in response to determining that the destination node is not a member of one or more of the existing subnetworks.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The arrangement of claim 12, wherein the source node further comprises:

means for determining whether a route ~~[[over]]~~ that includes one or more ~~new connections associated with one or more~~ newly formed and/or newly reformed subnetworks is desirable, ~~if it is determined~~ in response to determining that a timely reply in response to the route discovery request message is received by the source node.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The arrangement of claim 15, wherein the source node further comprises:

means for establishing a route between the source node and the destination node over ~~one or more connections associated with~~ the one or more existing subnetworks~~[[,]]~~ if it is determined that a timely reply in response to the route discovery request message is received and it is determined that a route ~~[[over]]~~ that includes one or more ~~new connections associated with one or more~~ newly formed and/or newly reformed subnetworks is not desirable.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The arrangement of claim 15, wherein the source node further comprises:

means for establishing a route between the source node and the destination node over ~~one or more connections associated with~~ the one or more existing subnetworks if it is determined that a timely reply in response to the route discovery request message is received and it is determined that a route ~~[[over]]~~ that includes one or more ~~new connections associated with one or more~~ newly formed and/or newly reformed subnetworks is desirable, and for simultaneously initiating route discovery for a route between the source node and the destination node ~~over one or more connections associated with~~ that includes one or more newly formed and/or newly reformed subnetworks.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The arrangement of claim 12, wherein the ad-hoc network is a Bluetooth technology based network.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The arrangement of claim 18, wherein the existing and newly formed and/or newly reformed subnetworks are piconets.